

House Bill 273 January 31, 2013 Presented by Hank Worsech House Fish, Wildlife and Parks Committee

Mr. Chairman and committee members, I am Hank Worsech, License Bureau Chief, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP). I am here in support of House Bill 273.

HB 273 will remove the sunset date on the sales of licenses to a non-resident to hunt with a resident sponsor or family member, also known as "Come Home to Hunt". The Come Home to Hunt license provides family members who have moved out of state the opportunity to return to Montana to hunt with sponsoring family members, at the regular nonresident license price. This was a Public Land/Private Wildlife bill that included a sunset in order to provide a test period to make sure the program works. Although the license has been lightly used, the program has been successful.

The passage of HB 273 will continue to allow individuals the opportunity to come home to hunt with their families and the Department requests a "do pass".

Thank you.